

THE Shadow



DYNAMITE 22

THE *Shadow*

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THE Shadow

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SEE THE BACK INSIDE COVER FOR ALL VARIANT COVERS

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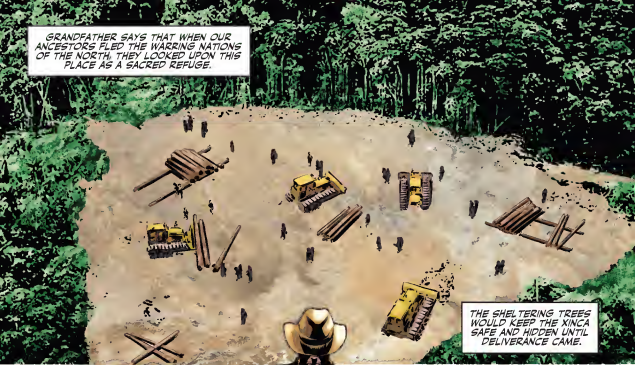


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GRANDFATHER SAYS THAT WHEN OUR ANCESTORS FLED THE WARRING NATIONS OF THE NORTH, THEY LOOKED UPON THIS PLACE AS A SACRED REFUGE.



THE SHELTERING TREES WOULD KEEP THE XINCA SAFE AND HIDDEN UNTIL DELIVERANCE CAME.

BUT LONG CENTURIES HAVE PASSED, AND WE NOW KNOW ALL TOO WELL THAT NOTHING CAN STAY HIDDEN FOREVER.



AH, FOR PETE'S SAKE, I NEED THIS LIKE I NEED A HOLE IN THE HEAD.

(COME ON, CLEAR OUT OF HERE!)

(THESE MEN HAVE WORK TO DO! SO GET OUT OF THE WAY AND LET THEM DO IT!)





(NO, THESE WOODS
HAVE BEEN UNDISTURBED
SINCE BEFORE YOUR COUNTRY
WAS BORN, AND THEY WILL BE
STANDING LONG AFTER
YOUR COUNTRY IS
FORGOTTEN.)

(YOU WILL NOT
CUT ANOTHER TREE.
NOT EVEN ONE.)



(I CANNOT
ALLOW IT.)

(LOOK, OLD MAN.
WE'VE GOT TO CLEAR THIS
LAND SO WE CAN GET A NEW
CROP OF BANANAS PLANTED.
BECAUSE PEOPLE BACK HOME
IN THE STATES JUST LOVE
THEIR BANANAS.)



(WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY WITH ALL
THIS GEAR, AND WE'RE NOT TURNING
AROUND NOW JUST BECAUSE ONE
OLD KOOK IS SENTIMENTAL
ABOUT SOME TREES.)

(SO GO ON BACK
TO YOUR VILLAGE, AND
LET ME AND MY MEN
DO OUR JOBS.)



(OR
ELSE.)



{NO.}



OOF.

{I'M THROUGH BEING POLITE.}



COME ON, YOU JOKERS. ENOUGH STANDING AROUND.

WE'RE ALREADY BEHIND SCHEDULE AS IT IS.

OUR GRANDFATHER INSISTED THAT THE AMERICANS COULD BE REASONED WITH. THAT THEY COULD BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND.

BUT THOUGH HE IS A WISE MAN, WHO HAS LEARNED A GREAT MANY THINGS IN HIS LONG YEARS, THERE ARE STILL SOME THINGS HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND.

THE WORLD MOVES ON, AND
NOTHING IS AS IT WAS.

THE XINCA HAVE ADOPTED
THE CLOTHES, THE CUSTOMS,
EVEN THE LANGUAGE OF
OTHER PEOPLES.

BUT WE HAVE NEVER
FORGOTTEN WHO WE ARE.

MY BROTHER AND I HONOR OUR
GRANDFATHER, AND EVERYTHING HE HAS
TAUGHT US ABOUT OUR HERITAGE.

BUT HE IS WRONG
WHEN HE SAYS IT IS
TOO DANGEROUS TO
TAKE DIRECT ACTION.
SOMETIMES NEW
SOLUTIONS ARE
REQUIRED.



(THIS SHOULD WORK.)

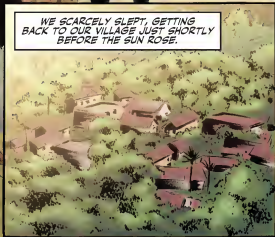
KTHUNK

SMASH

(AT THIS RATE, WE'LL BE FINISHED WELL BEFORE DAWN. KEEP AT IT.)

IT SEEMS FITTING TO USE THEIR TOOLS TO DESTROY THEIR TOOLS.

WE SCARCELY SLEPT, GETTING
BACK TO OUR VILLAGE JUST SHORTLY
BEFORE THE SUN ROSE.



GET OUT
HERE, OLD MAN!
I NEED TO TALK
TO YOU!

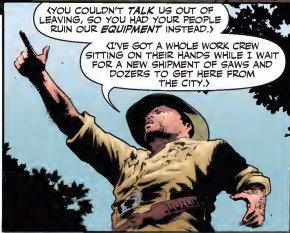


WHAT
BUSINESS
DO YOU HAVE
WITH ME?



YOU COULDN'T TALK US OUT OF
LEAVING, SO YOU HAD YOUR PEOPLE
RUIN OUR EQUIPMENT INSTEAD.

I'VE GOT A WHOLE WORK CREW
SITTING ON THEIR HANDS WHILE I WAIT
FOR A NEW SHIPMENT OF SAWS AND
DOZERS TO GET HERE FROM
THE CITY.



I HAVE
NO IDEA WHAT
YOU ARE TALKING
ABOUT.





(ENOUGH
OF YOUR LIES.
SEIZE HIM!)

UNGH.



(GRANDFATHER!)

(LET HIM
GO OR WE
WILL....!)



(NO!
THE VILLAGE
NEEDS YOU TO
PROTECT IT.
STAY HERE.)

PERHAPS NEW SOLUTIONS AREN'T
ALWAYS THE RIGHT ONES.

NO ONE BUT
MY BROTHER AND
I KNEW WHAT WE
HAD DONE.

BUT THEY KNOW NOW...

<...LITTLE FOOLS.
WHAT DID YOU THINK
WOULD HAPPEN? THAT
THEY WOULD JUST
LEAVE?>

<AND NOW A GOOD MAN
COULD SUFFER FOR YOUR
THOUGHTLESSNESS?>

<WE DIDN'T...
WE THOUGHT
THAT...>

<WELL,
SOMEONE HAD TO
DO SOMETHING!>

<SOMEONE
WILL.>



«I HAVE
BEEN AWAY TOO
LONG.»


«BUT IT
SEEMS I HAVE
RETURNED JUST
IN TIME.»

«ALLARD!»

«YOU ARE
BACK!»

«I SWORE AN
OATH ON THIS RING THAT
I WOULD ALWAYS BE THERE
FOR THE XINCA IN TIMES
OF NEED.»

«AND THOUGH I
CAME BACK HERE SEEKING
ANSWERS, I FIND THAT YOU
REQUIRE ASSISTANCE,
FIRST.»



(NOW, AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN, TELL ME EVERYTHING.)

(THESE TWO TRIED TO STOP THE MEN FROM THE FRUIT COMPANY FROM CUTTING THE FOREST TO MAKE WAY FOR MORE BANANA CROPS.)

(YOUR RESOLVE IS TO BE ADMIRABLE, BUT SOMETIMES MORE SUBTLE MEANS ARE REQUIRED.)

(AND YOUR GRANDFATHER STANDS TO PAY THE PRICE FOR YOUR ACTIONS?)

(YES, THE FRUIT MEN AND SOME SOLDIERS ARE HOLDING HIM AT THEIR WORK CAMP.)

(THIS CAMP, WHERE IS IT?)



(AGAIN,
SEE IF THAT
LOOSENS HIS
TONGUE.)



THWACK



(NOTHING...
TO SAY...)



(I DON'T
BUY IT. THERE
MUST BE *SOME*
REASON.)



(EVEN HERE,
WE KNOW WHO
YOU PEOPLE ARE.
WHAT YOU DO.)

(YOU TURN WHOLE COUNTRIES INTO
PLANTATIONS TO GROW YOUR FRUIT.)

(YOU BUY GOVERNMENTS
AND ARMIES TO ENFORCE
YOUR WILL.)

(AND THEY PUNISH
ANYONE WHO STANDS
IN YOUR WAY.)

(LIVES DESTROYED.
VILLAGES BURNED.
ALL FOR THE SAKE OF
YOUR PROFITS.)



WHAT THE
DEVIL...?





WHAT ARE
YOU STANDING
AROUND GAWPING
FOR?!

GET SOME
WATER AND PUT
OUT THESE
FIRES!

<THESE
VILLAGERS COULD
NOT HAVE DONE
THIS.>

<SOMEONE
IS HELPING
THEM? BUT WHO
COULD-->

HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA



(I WILL GIVE
YOU A CHOICE. LEAVE
THIS PLACE AND NEVER
RETURN...)

(...OR STAY, AND
FACE THE VENGEANCE
OF THE *SHADOW*.)



(WHO
DARES?)

(WHAT
BUSINESS IS
IT OF *YOURS*
WHAT WE DO,
ANYWAY?!)



(LEAVE
NOW.)

(OR
FACE MY
WRATH.)



GET
HIM, YOU
JOKERS!

«MEN,
SEIZE HIM AT
ONCE!»

«IN WHAT
LITTLE TIME
REMAINS TO YOU
REMEMBER THAT
I GAVE YOU A
CHOICE.»

«THE BLOOD
THAT ALREADY
STAINS YOUR
HANDS DOES NOT
CONCERN ME
TODAY.»


«PROTECTING
THIS PLACE
DOES.»





GRANDFATHER TAUGHT US THAT THE XINCA SOUGHT REFUGE IN THIS PLACE, UNTIL DELIVERANCE CAME.

LEGENDS TOLD OF A GOD WHO WOULD COME FROM THE SKY, RETURNING TO THEM WHAT HAD BEEN LOST.



AND THE XINCA WOULD BE PROTECTED EVER AFTER.



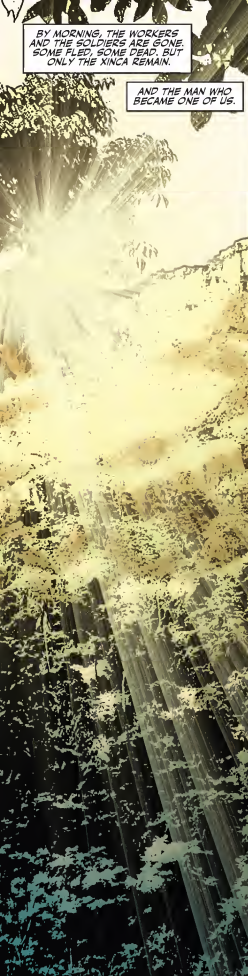
«IT IS HIM.»

«HE HAS RETURNED TO US ONCE AGAIN.»



«YES, GRANDFATHER.»

«COME ON, WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE.»



BY MORNING, THE WORKERS
AND THE SOLDIERS ARE GONE.
SOME FLED, SOME DEAD, BUT
ONLY THE XINCA REMAIN.

AND THE MAN WHO
BECAME ONE OF US.

MY BROTHER AND I WERE JUST
CHILDREN WHEN HE FELL FROM THE
SKIES. HE WAS SEEKING REFUGE
OF HIS OWN, OF A KIND.

AND HE CARRIED
WITH HIM SOMETHING
THAT WE HAD ALWAYS
THOUGHT WAS LOST
FOREVER.



«...ALWAYS
WELCOME TO REMAIN
HERE WITH US. LEAVE
THE WORLD OUTSIDE TO
ITS OWN DEVICES. HERE,
WE LIVE AS WE
PLEASE.»



(BUT AS LAST NIGHT
PROVES, YOU CANNOT
HIDE FROM THE WORLD
FOREVER.)

(NO, I HAVE A
DUTY TO PERFORM,
AND I WON'T TURN
MY BACK ON IT.)



(BUT YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE MY GRATITUDE FOR TAKING ME IN AS YOU DID. I NEEDED A PLACE TO HIDE, IF ONLY FOR A TIME, AND YOU OPENED YOUR HOMES TO ME.)

(THERE WERE THOSE WHO THOUGHT YOU WERE OUR FABLED GOD FINALLY RETURNED. I AM STILL HALF-CONVINCED OF IT MYSELF.)



(AFTER ALL, YOU DID CARRY THE EYE-STONE WITH YOU.)



(AND I LEFT THE OTHER IN YOUR SAFE KEEPING.)



(SO HOW DID IT END UP IN NEW YORK ON A SEVERED FINGER?)



(I HAD HOPED IT WAS JUST AN INGENUOUS FORGERY, A DUPLICATE OF THE ORIGINAL.)



(WE VISIT THE IDOL
SO SELDOM IN THESE DAYS,
I CANNOT TELL YOU HOW LONG
THE OTHER EYE HAS BEEN
MISSING.)

(THEN THERE IS
NO OTHER POSSIBLE
EXPLANATION. I MUST
RETURN TO NEW YORK
AT ONCE.)

(MAY WE...MAY
WE ACCOMPANY
YOU, ALLARD? MY
BROTHER AND I, WE
WANT TO REPAY WHAT
YOU DID FOR US
LAST NIGHT.)

(REMAIN HERE, FOR
NOW. THE TIME WILL COME
SOON WHEN YOUR SERVICES
WILL BE NEEDED.)

THESE TREES KEEP US
SHELTERED AND HIDDEN.
BUT NOTHING CAN REMAIN
HIDDEN FOREVER.

TO BE CONCLUDED...

DYNAMITE[®]

IN THE NEWS - JANUARY 2014

DYNAMITE CELEBRATES THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN WITH A NEW SEASON 6 COMIC BOOK SERIES, EXPANDS UPON CLASSIC TV CUNTIPTU



Dynamite and NBCUniversal Television Consumer Products are proud to announce that the beloved television action hero Colonel Steve Austin will celebrate his 40th Anniversary by returning to comics in the upcoming *Six Million Dollar Man: Season 6* series, set immediately following the classic television continuity. Featuring the writing talent of award-winning author James Kuhoric (*Army of Darkness*) and artwork by Juan Antonio Ramirez, the upcoming *Six Million Dollar Man: Season 6* comic series will launch with covers by legendary painter Alex Ross (*Kingdom Come*).

A direct follow-up to the classic television series, the *Season 6* series pits Steve Austin and his trusted handler Oscar Goldman against a rogue faction of the OSI. A new type of infiltration agent is the key to the treacherous power play – one that is robotic and completely obedient to the traitors. Can a soulless machine make the world's first Bionic Man obsolete? *Six Million Dollar Man: Season 6* will hold special appeal for longtime fans, as the infamous villain Maskatron debuts for the first time within television continuity with a violent and terrifying purpose. Furthermore, Austin's role as a NASA pilot will return to prominence, as conspiracies involving extraterrestrial technology and close encounters take root at the OSI.

"Being able to tell a story about Steve Austin is a lifetime ambition," says writer James Kuhoric. "The *Six Million Dollar Man* was a cornerstone of positive childhood memories, and stuck with me over three decades. The idea of a man who could do anything he wanted, but always chose to do the 'right thing,' captivated me. Time and time again, Steve would show us that it really wasn't the machine that made the man special, it was the man that made the machines special. That little spark of childhood, that hidden gem that told me to do the right thing, stuck with me all this time. Every time since that I would hear the distinctive opening credits sequence, I would be brought back to a purer frame of mind – one where you could solve any problem with bionic limbs, a dry smile, and a raised eyebrow."

James Kuhoric has written many original creator-driven and licensed comic books. His list of writing contributions includes *Battlestar Galactica*, *Stargate SG-1*, and his Spike TV *Scream* Award-winning run on *Army of Darkness*. Collaborating with Jeff Katz, he brought three of the biggest horror franchises together with *Freddy vs. Jason vs. Ash* and its sequel *Freddy vs. Jason vs. Ash: The Nightmare Warriors*. His original creations *Dead Irons* and *Legendary Talespinners* were featured as key releases by *Wizard Magazine* and *Comic Shop News*. He is also the Editor-in-Chief of *Bleeding Cool Magazine*, as well as the Vice President of Publishing for Avatar Press.

"When the guys at Dynamite launched Kevin Smith's *Bionic Man* (a modern reimagination of the character), I read it loyally every month, but I still missed the original," says Kuhoric. "When Dynamite approved my pitch for the continuation of the original series picking up after the final fifth television season, I knew I had to bring back all the things that made it special to me back in the day. The book has a specific look to it, and will feature many of the main characters from the series. We went out of our way to use the 'Kung Fu Slow Motion,' the sound effects, and all the oddities of that era so the comic book would feel like the original TV series."

Kuhoric comments on the art chores, "When I saw the first turnarounds from artist Juan Ramirez, I was amazed. His images evoked everything special I had always seen in the show, and he brought a fresh more modern look to the pages overall. Dynamite would take it a step further by getting Alex Ross to paint the main covers for the new series. As a lifetime comic book fan, it is a true honor to have the industry's most prolific painter contribute his incredible work on one of my stories. Everything about this new series is going to be done with the care of lifetime fans behind it."

Award-winning painter and industry icon Alex Ross not only provides the covers for *Season 6*, he also made the novel suggestion to develop a long-lost piece of SMDM action figure history into one of the franchise's most fearsome villains. "The Maskatron toy was my favorite toy growing up," says Ross. "I played with it to death, turning it into different characters from *The Six Million Dollar Man*, as well as other comic book characters that I could turn it into. I'm thrilled to help bring it to life in a full storyline."

"When deciding what event would be compelling to fans of the show, it seemed that delivering the sixth season was ideal," says Nick Barrucci, CEO and Publisher of Dynamite. "We wanted to build on the myths, and to do that, we felt that there had to be new villains. In discussions, we contemplated: why not bring into the series a villain whom fans would know from the toys, even though he wasn't in the TV series? Why not have a villain who could be The Joker to Steve Austin's Batman, or Doctor Octopus to his Spider-Man? How to push the envelope? And I have to say, James took Alex's idea and ran with it. New and existing fans are going to be surprised at the time and care that went in to putting together the series that will help celebrate Steve Austin's 40th Anniversary, and beyond."

NEXT ISSUE:



ISSUE #23

The search for the secret of the girasol is finally nearing its end, and the trail has led the Shadow back home to the jungles of Guatemala back home to the concrete canyons of New York City. But is he prepared for the answers that he will find?

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